

PEI Paddle Brigade 2018

Dates: July 27-29, 2018

The PEI Paddle Brigade will consist of one day paddling on Tracadie Bay and the Hillsborough River and two days paddling the Three Rivers region of eastern PEI, including the Montague, Brudnell and Cardigan Rivers, as well as open water paddling on the Northumberland Strait to Boughton Island. All these waterways are important historic regions as they were key access points for Indigenous Mi'kmaq people as well as early French settlers in the 1700s. The waters of the Hillsborough River flowing into the Northumberland Strait in the South and Tracadie Bay on the North Shore were connected by a portage route allowing Mi'kmaq movement to the entire region of central PEI. In Three Rivers, the Roma settlement was one of the most successful French farming, fishing and trading sites, destroyed during the War of the Austrian Succession but now recreated on the same site. We will have the opportunity to see a seal colony, mussel operations, sand dunes and warm beach water plus bald eagles, various wildlife of the small kind and the nicest part of the PEI summer.

All the waters in this Brigade are tidal and, as such, the factors of winds, waves and tidal currents all come into play in the paddling experience and in decisions that will be made on the ground if weather conditions dictate. The Brigade will be open to large Voyageur-style canoes which typically accommodate 6 or more paddlers, as well as smaller tandem canoes and kayaks. The Safety Plan will call for accommodation for both large and small craft groups. Distances each day are moderate but paddlers should consider level of experience in tidal, open and potentially windy conditions.

Map of PEI with locations pinpointed insert here.

27 July – Distance 25 km for both legs. See Tracadie and Hillsborough Maps.

Morning: Meet 10:00am at Corran Ban Bridge on the Winter River. Paddle Winter Bay and Tracadie Bay including some open water on the Gulf of St. Lawrence weather permitting. Portage or trailer canoes to the Hillsborough following lunch.

Afternoon: Paddle the upper Hillsborough River from Mount Stewart to the Pisquid River and return. Transport boats to Brudnell Provincial Park Campground site. Supper is not provided but the group may want to arrange a group meal or take advantage of nearby restaurants. (Note: The details about the Hillsborough leg are under discussion at the time of submitting this)

28 July – Distance 20 km See Three Rivers Map

Put in at Montague, paddle Montague River to Georgetown Harbour. Visit seal grounds en route.

Paddle from Georgetown Harbor on the Brudnell River to take out at Brudnell Provincial Park Campground.

29 July – Distance 30 km See Three Rivers Map

Put in at Cardigan, paddle on the Cardigan River to Boughton Island.

Paddle Boughton Island to take out at Brudnell Provincial Campground.

Campsites:

Campground space has been blocked out for 20 sites until July 2nd. Reservations, referring to the “PEI Paddle Brigade 2018” block of campsites can be made at:

brudenellcampground@gov.pe.ca

(902) 652-8966 (T)

(877) 445-4938 (T)

Two way hookups may be available – book soon. Travelers coming from off-island may want to book for the night of 26 July to be set up and ready to travel to the Hillsborough for the morning of 27 July.

On the evening of 28 July, a social event is being planned for all participants and the activity center at the campground has been booked. If registrants indicate that they would like on-site catering, we can make this arrangement. Otherwise, we could collaborate towards the food and beverages for the event.

Registration:

CVBS registration is done online through the Voyageur Brigade Society link at a cost of \$18 per person which covers membership and Insurance coverage with the Brigade Society.

On the PEI Brigade 2018 registration form please indicate if you would like to have a catered event on the evening of Saturday July 28th and if you would like us to pursue a T Shirt design.

Looking forward to meeting friends and making new ones!

Questions?

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